(c) whether Government propose to withdraw the order, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) The authority to sanction various types of pensionary benefits in respect of officers and personnel of the Navy and Air Force retiring on or after 1st November, 1985 has been delegated to the Controller of Defence Accounts (Navy), Bombay and the Deputy Controller of Defence Accounts (Air Force), New Delhi, respectively.

(b) The Government orders have been issued with a view to streamline the procedure and in the interest of the pensioners. The Government have received some representations against this delegation.

(c) Since the Government orders have been issued after considering all the aspects and in the interest of the pensioners, it is not proposed to withdraw the orders.

Pollution Control System in Fertilizer Plants

2529. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA :
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA :
SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of public sector fertilizer plants in which pollution control systems have yet to be installed; and

(b) whether the aforesaid plants have obtained clearance against environmental pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table to the sabha.

Assistance to Acharya Rajneesh by the Indian Embassy in US

2530. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR :
SHRI S.W. DHABE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 607 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st November, 1985 and state :

(a) whether any assistance was also given by the Indian Embassy in US to Acharya Rajneesh in the cases filed against him in US; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is the result of criminal cases filed against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Embassy of India in Washington extended the normal consular assistance. It is expected to give in cases of Indian nationals in similar situation, in accordance with international practice.

(b) In connection with the legal proceedings concerning Shri Rajneesh in the USA, his attorneys were in touch with the Embassy of India in Washington for such legal advice that they might need. The Embassy of India also consulted its Honorary Legal Adviser in the matter. Besides approaching the State Department to ensure that Shri Rajneesh's rights were protected and that he received humane and fair treatment, an officer of the Consulate General of India San Francisco was deputed to visit Shri Rajneesh in Portland on November 8 to render whatever assistance he could. He obtained agreement of the prison commandant that Shri Rajneesh's needs would be taken care of including timely food and medicines.

On November 14, Shri Rajneesh pleaded guilty of two counts of a thirty five count indictment accusing him of violating US immigration laws and of two charges of lying to immigration authorities. Under a plea-bargain arrangement he received a five year suspended prison sentence. He also agreed to pay $ 400,000 fine and leave the country within five days.

Increase of pollution in the Country

2531. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times of the 30th October, 1985 wherein it has been stated that pollution is increasing considerably in the country;

(b) whether it has also been stated that deforestation is posing a great threat to ecological balance in the country; and

(c) whether replacement of firewood is being developed in the country to avoid deforestation in the country and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir; Schemes have been undertaken for popularization of alternate energy devices such as biogas plants; solar-cookers and improved cooking stoves.

A National Wasteland Development Board has been set up with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantation.

Plan outlay for Bihar

2532. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the annual plan outlay for 1985-86 for Bihar as proposed by the State Government indicating the Sector-wise and Service-wise break-up there; and

(b) the sector-wise/service-wise plan outlays as approved by the Planning Commission and the Central Government and the extent to which respective targets are expected to be slashed as a result of these cuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing headwise outlays proposed by the State Government and as approved by Planning Commission for the Annual Plan 1985-86 of Bihar is enclosed.

Formulation of proposals by the State Government for their respective Annual Plans is the first step of the exercise of formulating the Annual Plans of the States. These proposals are discussed in detail by the Planning Commission with their repsentatives of the respective State Governments and Plans are finalised keeping in view the available resources. As far as possible, agreed decisions are taken with regard to overall size of the Plans, sectoral outlays and targets. As such there is no question of slashing of targets.